

IN THE SPECIFICATION

a1 Page 1, before line 1, please insert -- **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION** --;

a2 Page 8, before line 20, please insert -- **SUMMARY AND OBJECTS OF THE PRESENT INVENTION** --;

a3 Page 20, before line 26, please insert -- **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS** --; and,

a4 Page 21, before line 14, please insert -- **DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS** --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel ~~claims~~ 1 - 29 and add the following new claims.

a5 --30. (New) A method for distributively and dynamically securing a communications network, comprising the steps of:

interconnecting a network device between each computer equipment to be secured and the network;

intercepting communications between a computer equipment connected to said device and the network by said device;

obtaining information related to a user of said computer equipment by an authentication module associated with said device;

defining a security level of said device by said authentication module associated with said device;